



CPYRGHT

By Arthur Ellis, Staff Photographer

After his arraignment, John Joseph Frank (center) leaves District Court with his attorneys, Edward L. Carey (left)

and Walter Gillcrist. Frank is accused of failing to register with the Justice Department as agent for a foreign principal.

Dominican Probe Holds D. C. Lawyer

Former FBI Man Indicted as Illegal Agent for Trujillo

By Morrey Dunie and Albon B. Halley
Staff Reporter

John Joseph Frank, 42, Washington attorney and former FBI agent, was indicted by a Federal grand jury yesterday on charges of acting illegally as an agent for Generalissimo Trujillo and the Dominican Republic.

The four-count indictment charged Frank with violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 by failing to register with the Justice Department as an agent for a foreign principal.

Frank was indicted by a District Court grand jury which reportedly has been secretly investigating the disappearance of Jesus Maria de Galindez, a Columbia University professor, and Gerald L. Murphy, an American pilot.

De Galindez, 42, a bitter critic of Dominican strong man Trujillo, disappeared in March, 1956, in New York City. Murphy, 23, a pilot for a Dominican airline, was last seen in Ciudad Trujillo in December, 1956.

Frank, a former lawyer for the top-secret Central Intelligence Agency, testified before the grand jury March 12.

Two counts of the indictment charged that Frank, also known as "John Kane," had collected information for and "solicited and accepted" compensation from the Dominican Republic since May, 1954, without registering as a foreign agent.

The other two counts charged Frank with reporting information to and soliciting compensation from Trujillo.

The indictment also charged that the former FBI agent "dispensed and disbursed" money for Trujillo and the Dominican government in the District and elsewhere in the United States.

The fourth count of the indictment did not mention the District but charged that Frank acted "at the order, request and under the direction of" Trujillo "within the United States" in collecting and reporting information.

Frank, a Georgetown University academic and Law School graduate, was arrested about 4:30 p. m. by three FBI agents as he was walking with his attorney, Edward L. Carey, at 17th and I sts. nw.

Arraigned half an hour later before District Court Judge Richmond B. Keech, Frank entered a plea of innocent.

Judge Keech set bond for Frank at \$10,000 after Carey vigorously opposed the Government's request for \$25,000 bond.

'International' Case

Nathan B. Lenvin, special Justice Department attorney, conducting the grand jury in-

vestigation, explained the Government's request by telling the Court the case "has international ramifications."

Lenvin said the Government knew that Frank made "frequent trips" to New York, Florida and the Dominican Republic and had reason to believe Frank might "flee." Lenvin also said Frank maintained a home in Dominica.

Carey entered a strong protest. He told the Court that Frank, as a lawyer and former FBI agent, was "the most faithful client I have ever had."

Frank, who lives at 7608 Columbia Pike, Alexandria, was freed under \$10,000 bond shortly before 6 p. m. and left the District Courthouse referring all queries by newsmen to his attorney.

Justice Department spokesmen, who said the grand jury investigation is "continuing," said each of the four counts in the indictment carries a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison and/or a \$10,000 fine.

Arrested On Warrant

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said his bureau's investigation into Frank's activities began in "mid-1954." The basis for Frank's arrest was a Federal warrant obtained here May 13, Hoover said.

Frank, a native of New Britain, Conn., was a 1938 graduate of Georgetown and obtained his law degree there in 1941, the Justice Department said.

Frank joined the FBI on July 7, 1941, and served as a special agent until May 13, 1949. Since then he engaged in private practice and also worked for CIA before returning to private law practice here in 1953, Justice Department

spokesmen said.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. and Washington Attorney Charles Patrick Clark were registered with the Justice Department last year as Dominican Republic advisers but withdrew their affiliation last Feb. 28.

Early this year, Life Magazine linked the de Galindez disappearance with the reported death of Murphy, a Eugene, Ore., flier, in the Dominican capital.

Murphy vanished in Ciudad Trujillo Dec. 3 after he reportedly boasted of knowledge about the circumstances of the de Galindez disappearance in New York.

De Galindez, a onetime Dominican resident, left his Columbia University classroom at 9:30 p. m. on March 12, 1956, and vanished.

The Life account linked a March 12 flight Murphy made from Newark, N. J., to a Dominican airport with de Galindez's disappearance.

Dominican Government spokesmen denounced the story as ridiculous.

Explaining the disappearance of Murphy, Dominican Attorney General Francisco E. Beras said last January that Murphy apparently had been murdered by a Dominican airline pilot who later hanged himself in his jail cell and left a note blaming the killing on a personal feud.

The State Department has asked the Dominican Republic to make a further investigation into Murphy's disappearance.

CPYRGHT

CPYRGHT



JOHN JOSEPH FRANK
... indicted as illegal agent